

Update: New Haven Line M-8 Rail Cars February 6, 2012



This status report will be updated periodically to provide the most current information on the M-8 rail car procurement.

Current Status of the M-8s.

Delivered to New Haven Yard	Under Inspection and Testing by Kawasaki Rail Car, Inc.	Conditionally Accepted by Metro-North Railroad for Service	Information Provided
78 (total)	0	78	2/6/12
74 (total)	10	64	1/11/12
68 (total)	8	60	12/22/11
68 (total)	12	56	12/19/11
68 (total)	14	54	12/15/11
64 (total)	16	48	12/9/11
56 (total)	12	44 (includes 2 undergoing modifications)	11/28/11
42 (total)	10	36 (includes 4 undergoing modifications)	10/20/11
38 (total)	8	30	9/20/11
34 (total)	4	30	8/1/11
34 (total)	8	26	6/14/11
32 (total)	12	20	6/6/11
28 (total)	8	20	5/16/11

State of Connecticut & MTA/Metro-North Railroad Purchased 25 M-8 Single Rail Cars

Last year, twenty-five new single M-8 rail cars were added to the 380 M-8 rail cars already on order from Kawasaki Rail Car Inc. for use on the New Haven Line. The new cars will be "singles," as opposed to the "married pairs" now being delivered. This will provide the additional

advantage of being able to add one car, instead of two, on trains and is a very efficient way to add capacity in order to meet ridership growth.

The roll out of the new M-8s on the New Haven Line (NHL) continues. Of the 380 original order, the first 38 were built in Kobe, Japan, and the remaining 342 are being built at Kawasaki's plant in Lincoln, Nebraska.

More M-8's In Service

A total of 78 M8 cars support the 58 M8s (one 10-car train, three 8-car train sets and four 6-car train sets) operating in regularly scheduled train service as of February 6, 2012.

Customers have the opportunity to ride one or more of the 342 weekly trains (270 weekday and 72 weekend) operating in scheduled New Haven Line service with the eight M8 train sets. The new M8 trains represent 24.3% of the total New Haven Line main line weekday service, 39% of the total service on Saturdays and 28.9% on Sundays.

These trains operate during peak and off-peak service between New Haven, Stamford and Grand Central Terminal.

The new cars have received overwhelmingly positive customer feedback. [Click here to see customer reaction:](#)

M-8 Bike Rack Prototype

The Connecticut Department of Transportation and MTA Metro-North Railroad (MNR) tested two prototype bike mount systems specifically designed and manufactured for the M8 fleet by Sportworks on a pair of new M8s. There were opportunities for customers and members of bicycle advocacy groups to provide input on these prototypes through November 22, 2011. More information regarding the summary of customer feedback will be available in the coming months.

Production Progress

- **40 M8s manufactured in Lincoln, Nebraska and 38 M8s manufactured in Kobe, Japan have arrived in New Haven as of February 6, 2012. Kawasaki continues to prepare M8 cars for the testing phase before being accepted for regularly scheduled train service.**

(Updates are reflected in bold.)